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March 11, 2009

Honorable Michael A. Nutter
City Hall, Room 215
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mayor Nutter:

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On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Parks Alliance, our partners and our supporters, we applaud you for appointing Michael DiBerardinis to lead Philadelphia's new Department of Parks and Recreation.

With the appointment of Mr. DiBerardinis, you have fulfilled your call for a visionary and exceptional leader with a distinct skill set and a deep knowledge and passion for parks and recreation – the unique talent for whom the Parks Alliance has been advocating.

Your leadership along with that of Councilmembers Clarke and Reynolds Brown and the overwhelming citizen support of the Charter referendum last November, has made this excellent appointment possible.

The Parks Alliance is prepared to work with you, Mr. DiBerardinis, Mark Focht, Susan Slawson, City Council and the citizens of Philadelphia on the challenging and exciting effort to successfully reform the city's park and recreation system.

Sincerely yours,

Lauren Bornfriend
Executive Director

Pete Hoskins
Board President

By Hand

Cc: Secretary Michael DiBerardinis
Councilman Darrell Clarke
Councilwoman Blondell Reynolds Brown
Various members of media